

**Department of Public Works and Transportation  
Montgomery County, Maryland**

***DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES***



Recycling Awards Ceremony 2001

***MONTHLY REPORT  
MAY 2001***



*Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper*

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## **OVERVIEW**

### **Tonnage at a Glance**

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2001 began July 1, 2000.)

<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>May FY 01</b>	<b>FY 01 Total</b>	<b>May FY 00</b>	<b>May FY 99</b>
Materials Recovery Facility <sup>(1)</sup>	6,528 tons	71,632 tons	6,033 tons	4,661 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility <sup>(4)</sup>	18,549 tons	142,296 tons	14,475 tons	15,628 tons
American Ash Recycling <sup>(2)</sup>	1,034 tons	28,853 tons	3,345 tons	N/A
Resource Recovery Facility <sup>(3)</sup>	48,622 tons	473,756 tons	47,980 tons	39,024 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	5,814 tons	54,629 tons	5,577 tons	5,747 tons

<sup>(1)</sup>For FY01 and FY00, MRF tons reported are outgoing. For previous years, incoming was reported.

<sup>(2)</sup>Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

<sup>(3)</sup>RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. For FY01 these tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the December and June monthly reports.

<sup>(4)</sup>This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled at Clean Rock or other locations.

### **Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation** – During May, program staff:

- Provided internal review of monthly tonnage numbers.
- Completed recycling report for the State (in terms of state recycling definitions).
- Advertised nonresidential land use-generator category table.
- Handled routine level of solid waste billing inquiries.
- Forwarded FY02 rate regulation and resolution to Council and attended hearing.
- Continued development work on new hauler billing system, made plans for system to be operable in September/October.
- Continued variable rate analyses and report writing.
- Worked with statistician and collections group on curbside data collection.
- Placed new residential properties in the correct billing categories (in the tax database) and processed refunds for past erroneous billings found.
- Supported ad hoc workgroup re-evaluating services and rates for multi-family sector.
- Worked with State Department of Assessments and Taxation and County Finance to ready database for Levy Year 01 billings.

## **CITIZEN COMMITTEES**

**Facilities Implementation Group** – The next scheduled FIG meeting is 7:30 p.m., July 17, 2001 at the Gothic Barn. SHA will discuss traffic monitoring at the facilities.

**Sugarloaf Citizens Association** – The County is working with SCA & FIG to quantify the remaining obligations under the Master Plan and the SCA Agreement.

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee** – SWAC met Saturday, May 5, at the Gothic Dairy Barn in Dickerson, Maryland. Thirteen SWAC members, four County staff and three guests were in attendance. DSWS staff gave presentations to the Committee on the Dickerson Master Plan, Montgomery County Yard Trim Compost Facility, RRF, and Site 2 Properties. Tours of the RRF and Compost Facility were made available to the Committee by DSWS. SWAC members nominated candidates for new Committee officers.

## **COLLECTIONS**

**Refuse** – Refuse collection went as scheduled with no disruptions in service. There were very few complaints associated with the holiday slide, Memorial Day

**Recycling** – Mixed paper tonnage for the residential program during the four week period of April 16, 2001 through May 11, 2001 was 9.68 lbs. per household.

**Contractor Performance** – Ten complaints were not promptly resolved by the contractors in May; all were corrected by the County. During May, DSWS received 813 complaints; this represents a 33.7% increase from May 2000, which had 608 complaints.

**Enforcement Actions** – Twenty citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Eleven citations	Not having a valid collector's tag attached to the vehicle	\$5,750
Three citations	Not having a suitable tight fitting cover	\$1,500
Six citations	Collecting solid waste before 7 a.m.	\$3,250

Nineteen NOV's issued:

Thirteen NOV's	Not having a tight fitting cover
Four NOV's	Failing to maintain an approved container
One NOV	Dumping or leaving solid waste on public or private property
One NOV	Not having a current collectors license

**Customer Service** – DSWs received 7,373 incoming calls. Due to a now resolved software conflict with a new server, the follow-up calls for quality check were unattainable. There were 1,064 blue bins delivered and 222 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service Staff.

**Volunteer Activities** – Volunteers participated in:

- Two HHW collections (Shady Grove and Briggs Chaney Park & Ride Lot)
- Five weekend fairs and festivals that included the Taste of Wheaton

## **WASTE MINIMIZATION**

**Latex Paint Management** – Home management of latex paint continues to be strongly emphasized at the HHW events. Using some simple techniques and waste paint hardener, residents are encouraged to use it up, dry it up or pass it on.

**Bicycle Recycling** – Pedals for Progress has picked up three loads of bicycles for a total of 62 bikes. These bikes will be repaired and find new homes in El Salvador and West Africa.

**Computer Recycling Program** – Approximately 25 tons of computers were recycled in May. A special electronic equipment-recycling event is being held on June 23 and 24. Residents and businesses can recycle televisions, microwaves, radios, CD players, cassette recorders, etc.

**Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities** – Expanded advertising in the Gazette and Journal Newspapers continues through June. Emphasis on lawn care will shift to water conservation and mulching during July and August. A full page ad will appear in the Gazette Community Guide being distributed to all households in the county; the ad will continue the widespread promotion of the website for information on waste reduction, grasscycling, composting, mulching, landscape alteration, and general conservation and environmental resources. To increase visitation, the askDEP.com website now features an environmental quote of the day ("Citings of Nature") and gazette of those quotations, an IPM Tip of the Day (addressing pesticide alternatives), an EcoTip of the Day (air quality, energy and water conservation, etc.), and news features updated every several days.

The Green Man column is ongoing in the Gazette; current month feature examines groundcovers and alternative lawns, such as Thyme Lawns and Chamomile Lawns, currently popular in Great Britain.

## **HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection** – HHW events were held in May at the Transfer Station and at the Briggs Chaney Park and Ride Lot. There were 585 patrons and 245 patrons at the two events, respectively.

**Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program** – One Ecowise event was held in May; ten companies attended.

## **AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS**

### **Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEM Tracking of RRF Operations** -

Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) indicated that units 1 and 2 operated continuously until May 9. At approximately 10 p.m. on May 9, unit 1 was brought off-line to perform external weld repairs. Repairs were completed within 48 hours and the unit was brought back on-line at 10 p.m. on May 11. Thereafter, units 1 and 2 operated continuously until May 17. At approximately 6 p.m. on May 17, unit 3 was also brought on-line to handle additional waste in the pit. All three units operated continuously until the end of the month. No equipment malfunctions other than the grate problem on unit 1, affected unit operations or stack emissions.

As of this writing, the County has not received the RRF Title V draft Permit from MDE.

In the first week of May, the set of ten CEMS CD-ROM'S was updated to include CEMS data through April 30, 2001. Copies of the CD-ROM's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to DSWS staff, SWAC and FIG.

### **Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology** -

The Leachate Thermal Treatment System (LTTs) operated for 16 days, evaporating on average, 8 gallons of leachate per minute. Bentech is still continuing negotiations with electric companies for implementing an electricity-generating project. DSWS is planning to schedule a meeting with Bentech for the second week of May to discuss the status of the project.

**Yard Trim Composting Facility: Consent Agreement** – No further communication was received from MES with regard to the exceedance of BOD5 Discharge Permit limit in pond 2 during the sampling event on April 11. Under the Consent Agreement, the facility is to comply with the Discharge Permit limits from June 1, 2000.

**FIG Air Quality Subcommittee** – Nominated Florence Phillips of Boyds, MD, as replacement to Dr. Houston Miller on the Air Quality Committee. Several technical documents prepared by ENSR that were already reviewed by members of the Air Quality Committee were transmitted to Ms. Phillips for review.

DSWS completed review of the draft Methodology Report for the Update of the RRF Health Risk Study. ENSR is currently incorporating DSWS comments; the revised document is expected by June 12, 2001. A meeting of the Air Quality Committee is planned for the second week of July.

ENSR's subcontractor ANASYS is currently preparing the revised Methodology Report for the RRF Epidemiological Study; the document is expected by the end of June.

Site selection will commence in July for the non-air media monitoring this fall. DSWS and ENSR will visit potential sampling sites in the maximum impact area near the RRF and potential background sites in Lucketts, Virginia

**Contractual Work** – ENSR's contract expires in September 2001. The contract will be extended until September 2002 for continuing the RRF air media and non-air media programs and Health Risk studies.

SCS Engineers of Reston, Virginia, was selected for contract negotiations for the Oaks Landfill Air Emissions Measurement and Control. A draft contract is currently under preparation.

RAS contract for the maintenance of the RRF meteorological tower is extended until June 2002. This contractor will also prepare CD's incorporating the stack emissions data from the last 15 stack tests from the RRF.

## **RECYCLING**

**Public Outreach** – The week of May 21-25, 2001, was proclaimed Recycling Awareness Week. There were a number of different activities, all designed to highlight and increase awareness of recycling in the County. The week included presentations on recycling to several schools, using a theater group. DSWS held an awards ceremony, presided over by Mr. Duncan, to recognize great achievement and outstanding efforts in recycling. Over 50 individuals, businesses, organizations, schools and multi-family properties were highlighted.

Special outreach events have begun in areas where mixed paper participation is relatively low. DSWS staff takes the Recyclemobile out to these communities, and local shopping centers where there is much activity. A display of all the types of paper and cardboard that can be recycled at the curb is set up; information on mixed paper recycling is handed out. In addition, orders for new or additional blue bins are taken, and all other questions and requests are fulfilled.

The awareness campaign on recycling continues. The campaign includes print, television, radio and transit advertising.

The RFP for Recycling/Solid Waste Public Outreach and Education is under review.

**Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction** – DSWS staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs.

DSWS staff completed the series of training and informational seminars for haulers and property management companies.

During " Recycling Awareness Week", May 21- 25, 2001, businesses that have achieved over 50% recycling were recognized as "Recycler of the Year." Those businesses that have achieved 42% or higher received "Outstanding Achievement" awards. There were also special recognition awards for individuals who have made outstanding contributions toward the success of their recycling programs at their school or business.

**Multi-Family Recycling** – DSWs staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support.

DSWS staff continued to assist properties that were not in compliance with the County's regulation.

Annual recycling reports for 2000 are being reviewed and data is being analyzed.

The survey results have been finalized, reviewed and analyzed. Program offerings and future activities are being refined, taking the survey results into account.

Seven multi-family properties were recognized for their outstanding recycling efforts during Recycling Awareness Week.

**Mixed Paper Recycling** – A new mixed paper recycling brochure has been produced and is being distributed. Mixed paper is a major subject included in the new multi-media advertising campaign. Staff continues monitoring the amounts of mixed paper being recycled in each area, to troubleshoot and provide additional education to those low performance areas. Several initiatives are underway to serve under-performing areas, including developing and distributing additional educational materials in English as well as other languages, having community events where staff can provide additional recycling outreach and educational materials, etc.

## **PILOT PROGRAMS**

**Mixed Paper Pilot** – The award recommendation was made for the next 900 totes. This group of containers will be distributed in the Potomac area covering an entire route.

**Tubgrinding Pilot** – Tubgrinding of screened reject material began on August 22, 2000 and ended at the end of September 2000 with 5,205 yards of material being processed. In March, 5,529 yards of material was processed. The County is working with SCA for a new pilot agreement.

**Ash Recycling Pilot** – Ash recycling commenced on May 18 after a prolonged stoppage by AARPA due to operational problems at their York, PA facility. Deliveries started at half (four containers per day) of the normal daily schedule and are expected to be restored to full volume in early June.



The Authority is finalizing the ash-recycling Request for Proposals. DSWS is expected to receive a final draft in early June.

## **FACILITY ACTIVITIES**

**Resource Recovery Facility** – The Facility operation generally consisted of two units at full load for the first seventeen days of the month. On May 10 unit 1 was removed from service for two external weld repairs.

Delivery of empty ash containers to the RRF continued to be problematic through the first two weeks of the month. During that time the refuse pit volume increased to more than 13,000 tons. By May 17, the ash container delivery was back to normal operations and unit 3 was returned to service. By the 18<sup>th</sup> all three units were operating at full load. On May 18 unit 3 was briefly removed from service to correct an ash discharge plug; on May 30 it was taken off line to repair a bearing on the over-fire air fan.

There were no minimum or maximum utility generation alerts.

There were no reportable air or water quality environmental excursions in the month.

The following reports were submitted:

- April Water Supply Report to MDE.
- Supplemental data to MDE for the NPDES permit renewal application.
- Amended 2000 toxic air pollutant data.
- Sewage sludge generator annual report for 1998 to 2000 per MDE request for historical data.
- MDE inspectors conducted the NPDES and solid waste annual inspections. Minor comments were reported on the NPDES inspection, no comments were made of the solid waste inspection.
- Updated County CD-ROM's emission data.

Approximately 40 people toured the Facility, including students and parents from Poolesville Elementary School and county citizens.

Contract negotiations with Mirant and PEPCO continued. The new Electricity Sales Agreement and the PJM Interconnection Agreement are essentially complete. The Facility Site Agreement and PEPCO Interconnection Agreement continue to be discussed.

A Task Order request for a 5-Year Operations Review and Assessment of the Facility was issued. Proposals are due June 11, 2001 and the selection of a contractor is expected by late June.

**Materials Recovery Facility** – Approximately 1,634 tons of commingled material were shipped out after processing, and approximately 4,894 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

The contractor continued with the construction of the building expansion. The remaining concrete walls and the concrete floor were poured.

The scale house interior was painted.

Curb repair began and will finish in June.

Spring-cleaning continues at the facility, including painting roll-off boxes, hoppers and forklifts.

Work to update the information center was completed.

A surveillance camera was installed in the scale house. DSWS staff reviewed locations for other cameras for the processing area, the tipping floor and the lobby with the contractor. The scale house camera will become operational after all the other cameras are installed.

**Oaks Landfill** – Cherry Hill Construction, the contractor for the Phase I closure construction, worked for several weeks to complete remaining construction items including final grading and compaction of perimeter roads and final grading and seeding of topsoil in the last construction area. Several punch list items including final as-built documentation remain.

Work was performed on the proposed trail system in conjunction with M-NCPPC.

DSWS, DEP and the Office of the County Attorney are preparing additions to the Post-Closure Care Plan for the 30-Year post-closure period at the Oaks Landfill in response to comments received from MDE on the draft plan submitted by DSWS.

The County received the final Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan for the Oaks Landfill prepared by URS.

DEP continued weekly monitoring of certain gas wells where methane had been detected.

**Gude Landfill** – A preliminary estimate was received from URS and accepted by the County for the design of repairs to several poorly draining areas at the Gude Landfill. Field surveying will start in June.

The County received the final Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan for the Gude Landfill prepared by URS.

**Beantown Dump** – DEP's contractor submitted 30% complete drawings for the passive gas venting system at the old Beantown dumpsite. DSWS is coordinating the proposal with current property owners.

**Transfer Station** – During May, Covanta shipped via rail 49,439 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the RRF, 4,749 more tons than shipped in May 2000.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

Covanta completed work on upgrading their offices.

DSWS staff reviewed locations for surveillance cameras for the Transfer Station building, the scale house and the public unloading area.

**Site 2 Landfill Properties** – Clean up work at the Chiswell farmhouse was approved and funds were encumbered. The Notice to Proceed will be issued the first week of June. Additional price quotes were requested for some of the work and contractors submitted prices in late May. After their evaluations and approvals, notices will be issued to proceed with work.

DFS is preparing a draft lease for the Draper property. DSWS is expected to receive a draft for their review by mid-June.

**Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan** – Staff is working with FIG and SCA to quantify the remaining obligations in the Plan and other documents.

**Yard Trim Compost Facility** – The Dickerson yard trim facility received 5,814 tons of leaves and brush for composting; 5,787 yards of leafgro were sold in bulk.

**Bagging Operation** – In May, 40,000 bags of leafgro were produced at the facility and 80,554 bags were shipped to distributors.

**Linden Farm Renovations** – Under the signed bagging agreement, the County is to renovate the Feed Barn and Bank Barn. The contractor, Dean Fitzgerald is expected to start renovation work June 1, 2001.

## **Out-of-County Haul**

**Brunswick County, Virginia** – During May, about 13,475 tons of ash residue and 5,074 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 1,365 tons of rubble and 5 tons of wood waste were recycled at Clean Rock. The RRF was running all three units for most of the month, resulting in unusually high volumes of ash residue to transport. Additional rail cars were brought in to help manage the transport of ash residue. Trucking resources at the CSX rail yard where the containers are offloaded were also expanded and hours and days of service per week increased to meet the demand.

**York, Pennsylvania** – In May, 1,034 tons of ash residue (back hauled by rail from the RRF) were shipped from the Transfer Station to American Ash Recycling in York,

Pennsylvania to be recycled into aggregate. AAR is running at a reduced level until the end of its contract in June.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Important Telephone Numbers**

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370
Materials Recovery Facility	301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6439 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185
Internet for DSWS	<a href="http://www.MCRecycles.org">www.MCRecycles.org</a>

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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## SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

<i><b>TOPIC OR FACILITY</b></i>	
Current Recycling Rate in Montgomery County	36.5%
Recycling Goal	50%
New Recycling Programs Scheduled for FY 01	Residential Mixed Paper Collection is now available countywide
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY00 tons received- 58,602
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	83,521
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	198,422
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

# ***GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS***

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility